

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-41 (canceled)

42. (New) A support comprising polynucleotides covalently linked at their 5'- or 3'-termini to at least one major surface of said support through at least one bifunctional spacer and at least one bifunctional linker, wherein:

- said polynucleotides have a length of from 200 to 600 bp;
- said bifunctional linker is selected from the group of rigid homobifunctional linkers consisting of 1,4-disubstituted benzene, 2,7-disubstituted fluorene, 2,6-disubstituted naphthalene, 2,6-disubstituted anthracene, 2,7-disubstituted phenanthrene, 4,4'-disubstituted biphenyl, 4,4'-disubstituted benzoin ($C_6H_5-CO-CH-(OH)-C_6H_5$), 4,4'-disubstituted benzil ($C_6H_5-CO-CO-C_6H_5$), 4,4'-disubstituted benzophenone (C_6H_5), 4,4'-disubstituted diphenylmethane ($C_6H_5-CH_2-C_6H_5$), 4,4'-disubstituted stilbene ($C_6H_5-CH=CH-C_6H_5$), and 1,3-disubstituted allene ($CH_2=C=CH_2$);
- said polynucleotides are covalently bound to a functional group of said bifunctional linker through a primary amino group attached, on the 3'- or 5'-terminus through an alkane having a length of from 6 to 18 methylene groups or through a polyether having from 2 to 20 repeating units; and

- the polynucleotides are prepared by amplification.

43. (New) The support according to claim 42, wherein said polynucleotide is RNA, DNA or PNA.

44. (New) The support according to claim 42, wherein said support is made of glass or another material consisting essentially of silica.

45. (New) The support according to claim 42, said bifunctional spacer having the structure

$$(XO)_3\text{Si-Y-Nu,}$$

wherein

X = C₁-C₃ alkyl,

Y = C₂-C₄ alkylene, and

Nu = a nucleophilic group.

46. (New) The support according to claim 45, wherein the nucleophilic group is -NH₂ or -NHR, with R = -CH₂-CH₂-NH₂, -CH₂-CH₂-NH-CH₂-CH₂-NH₂, -CO-NH₂, or SH.

47. (New) The support according to claim 42, wherein said spacer is (MeO)₃Si-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-NH₂.

48. (New) The support according to claim 42, wherein said rigid homobifunctional linker comprises functional groups selected from the group consisting of:
 - aldehydes and ketones;
 - isocyanates and isothiocyanates;
 - carboxylic acids; and
 - carboxylic acid derivatives.
49. (New) The support of claim 48, wherein the carboxylic acid derivatives are selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) carboxylic acid esters;
 - b) carboxylic acid chlorides (R-COCl);
 - c) carboxylic acid azides (R-CON₃); and
 - d) mixed anhydrides with carbonic acid monoester (R-CO-O-COR').
50. (New) The support of claim 49, wherein the carboxylic acid esters are selected from the group consisting of methyl esters, ethyl esters, activated esters, and esters of *p*-nitrophenol and *p*-hydroxysuccinimide.
51. (New) The support of claim 42 wherein the support does not comprise a polyT-spacer.

52. (New) The support of claim 42 wherein the number of different polynucleotides is at least 72.

53. (New) The support of claim 52, wherein the number of different polynucleotides is at least 439.

54. A method for identifying and quantifying polynucleotides comprising the steps of:

- labeling the polynucleotides to be analyzed;
- hybridizing the polynucleotides on the support according to claim 42; and
- detecting hybridized labeled nucleic acids;

wherein steps (a) and (b) are performed in any order.

55. A method for establishing transcription profiles comprising:

- selecting homologous regions of mRNA from a target species and at least one model species;
- selecting amplification primers from the homologous regions of both the mRNA from said target species and the mRNA from said at least one model species, wherein the amplification primers allow amplification of nucleic acids having a length of from 200 to 600 bp, and wherein each amplification primer has a maximum of 1 mismatch per 6 nucleic acids of the amplification primer;

- c) amplifying, using the amplification primers, corresponding nucleic acids having a length of from 200 to 600 bp for said target species or said at least one model species;
- (d) immobilizing the nucleic acids obtained on at least one support;
- (e) incubating said at least one support with a DNA or RNA sample to be analyzed; and
- (f) determining the quantity of bound DNA or RNA.

56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the nucleic acids have a length of 200 to 400 bp.

57. (New) A method for generating of a support according to claim 42, comprising:

- a) applying the spacer in a polar aprotic solvent to the major surface of the support;
- b) removing excess unreacted spacer;
- c) dissolving the linker in an anhydrous polar aprotic solvent wherein the linker and the spacer, bound to said major surface, react;
- d) dissolving in a buffer the polynucleotides modified with an amino group at their 5'- or 3'- termini through an alkylene group;
- e) incubating the polynucleotides on said support to react and bind the polynucleotides to free groups of bifunctional linkers;
- f) optionally removing excess free groups of the bifunctional linkers; and
- (g) denaturing the polynucleotides bound to the support.